



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Summary

Rebenchmarking of Labour Force estimates

REBENCHMARKING OF LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES

INTRODUCTION

The ABS re-benchmarks Labour Force data once a quarter (ahead of the release of February, May, August and November issues) to ensure the estimates are based on the most up to date population benchmarks. This publication presents the estimates up to January 2016 based on the revised population benchmarks.

Revisions to original data resulting from rebenchmarking are usually confined to the previous 22 months.

Detailed information on the extent of revisions resulting from rebenchmarking can be derived by comparing the data released in this issue and the data released in the January 2016 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0) on 18 February 2016.

Further information on the rebenchmarking process is included in the February 2015 issue of *Labour Force, Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0).

REVISIONS TO HEADLINE SERIES

Incorporating the latest revised population benchmarks has resulted in minor revisions across the Labour Force series. The population benchmarks were revised from July 2014 to January 2015, however minor revisions to seasonally adjusted and trend estimates will occur throughout the time series due to concurrent seasonal adjustment.

The latest available Estimated Resident Population (ERP) growth over the previous 19 months was less than previous ERP. For January 2016, the Labour Force civilian population aged 15 years and over was revised down from 19.42 million to 19.41 million persons.

Revisions to headline series were minimal, with the largest revision in absolute terms to total seasonally adjusted employed persons of -6,600 (-0.1%) occurring in December 2015 and the average revision since July 2014 being -3,400 persons. The largest revision in absolute terms to seasonally adjusted unemployed persons of -300 persons (0.0%) was in October 2015, with the average revision since January 2014 being -200 persons. There were no revisions greater than 0.00 percentage points to the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate.

TABLE 1 - REVISIONS TO LEVELS

	Published	Revised	Jan-16 Difference	Dec-15			Dec-15 to Jan-16 movement		
				Published	Revised	Difference	Published	Revised	Difference
Trend									
Employed persons ('000)	11909.9	11903.1	-6.7	11890.1	11883.4	-6.7	19.8	19.7	0.1
Unemployed persons ('000)	739.4	739.1	-0.3	743.7	743.5	-0.3	-4.4	-4.4	0.0
Unemployment rate (%)	5.8	5.8	0.0 pts	5.9	5.9	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts
Participation rate (%)	65.2	65.2	0.0 pts	65.2	65.2	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	1652.7	1651.5	-1.2	1649.1	1648.0	-1.1	3.6	3.5	0.0
Seasonally adjusted									
Employed persons ('000)	11894.5	11888.4	-6.1	11902.4	11895.8	-6.6	-7.9	-7.5	-0.4
Unemployed persons ('000)	761.4	761.1	-0.3	731.2	730.9	-0.2	30.2	30.2	0.0
Unemployment rate (%)	6.0	6.0	0.0 pts	5.8	5.8	0.0 pts	0.2 pts	0.2 pts	0.0 pts
Participation rate (%)	65.2	65.2	0.0 pts	65.2	65.2	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	1656.0	1654.8	-1.1	1645.0	1643.9	-1.1	10.9	10.9	0.0

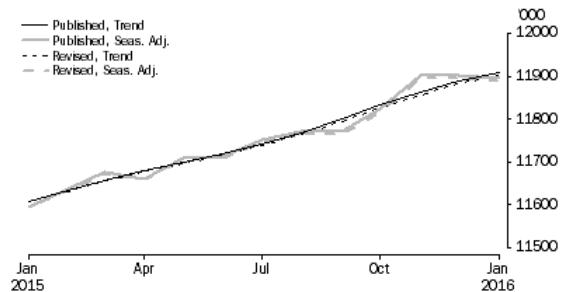
TABLE 2 - REVISIONS TO JANUARY 2016 MONTH ON MONTH AND YEAR ON YEAR MOVEMENT

	Published	Dec-15 to Jan-16 movement			Jan-15 to Jan-16 movement		
		Revised	Difference	Published	Revised	Difference	
Trend							
Employed persons ('000)		0.2%	0.2%	0.0 pts	2.6%	2.6%	0.0 pts
Unemployed persons ('000)		-0.6%	-0.6%	0.0 pts	-3.9%	-3.9%	0.0 pts
Unemployment rate (%)		0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	-1.4 pts	-1.4 pts	0.0 pts

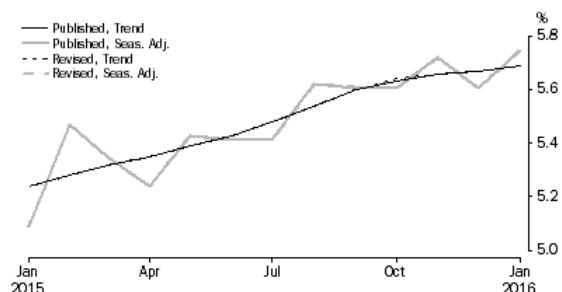
Participation rate (%)	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	-0.5 pts	-0.5 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	0.2%	0.2%	0.0 pts	2.0%	2.0%	0.0 pts
Seasonally adjusted						
Employed persons ('000)	-0.1%	-0.1%	0.0 pts	2.6%	2.5%	0.0 pts
Unemployed persons ('000)	4.0%	4.0%	0.0 pts	-2.8%	-2.9%	0.0 pts
Unemployment rate (%)	0.2 pts	0.2 pts	0.0 pts	-1.3 pts	-1.3 pts	0.0 pts
Participation rate (%)	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	-0.5 pts	-0.5 pts	0.0 pts
Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked (Mh)	0.7%	0.7%	0.0 pts	2.0%	2.0%	0.0 pts

While headline level estimates were revised down as a result of the revised population benchmarks, these revisions were not large enough to significantly affect month on month movements.

GRAPH 1 - PUBLISHED AND REVISED EMPLOYED PERSONS



GRAPH 2 - PUBLISHED AND REVISED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



About this Release

Summary results of the October 2015 Labour Force Survey benchmarked to the November 2015 estimates of the civilian population and containing estimates of employed and unemployed persons classified by sex, full-time/part-time status, states and territories and persons not in the labour force.

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